

Wisconsin Towns Association

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To: Town Clerks

From: Richard J. Stadelman, Executive Director

Re: Calls to Governor's Office on AB 260

Date of Memo: April 26, 2010

This memo is being mailed to all town clerks in Wisconsin. We are asking all town clerks to spread this memo to your fellow officers and town citizens (if possible) to ask everyone to call the Governor of Wisconsin's office to ask him to sign AB 260.

AB 260, a priority bill of our Association, passed both houses of the State legislature and is available for the Governor to sign the bill into law. **We are asking all town officers and town citizens to call the Governor's office at (608) 266-1212 and ask him to sign AB 260 into law.**

AB 260 reverses a 2003 Wisconsin Supreme Court case (Wood v. City of Madison) which provided that cities and villages could deny plats within their extraterritorial areas (which is town land within 3 miles of the cities over 10,000 in population, and 1 and ½ miles of a city under 10,000 or a village) on the basis of proposed land use. The Wood case reversed prior court cases which limited city and village extraterritorial platting authority to traditional land division powers of how land is divided and street configuration. As a result of the Wood case, very few cities and villages have been willing to even sit down and talk to town officials since 2003, while at the same time denying plats and developments in the towns. AB 260 will help level the playing field between towns and cities/villages on at least one aspect of boundary issues.

We ask that every town officer, their spouses, friends and other town residents call the Governor's office at (608) 266-1212 and ask the Governor to sign AB 260 into law. We know that Mayors and other city and village officers are calling the Governor to ask him to veto this bill. We need as many calls as possible, as soon as possible to impress the Governor's office of the importance of signing AB 260 into law.

It will only take a few minutes to call his office. The staff person will ask your name and address and what the purpose of the call is. Again to ask the Governor to sign AB 260. The staff person will not ask questions like why are you calling or what does the bill do. They only record who called and what you asked for. It is very simple! But very important to make as many calls now and in the next few days as possible.

Please give a copy of this letter to your fellow town officers. Ask them to make calls, have their spouses call, and ask town citizens to call to help protect towns in this matter!
Also please call yourself as a town clerk!